



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Laurens 55 School District
Grades: PK-12 **Enrollment: 6,007**
Superintendent: Dr. Billy R. Strickland
Board Chair: Rev. Charlie Short

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2009	Below Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	NI
2008	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	2	19	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010. Districts with Students Like Ours are Districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

PASS

PASS	2009 Reading	2009 Math	2009 Science	2009 Social Studies	2009 Writing
	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above
District	74.7%	70.4%	64.8%	68.9%	71.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	68.8%	65.7%	61.1%	66.5%	64.5%
Average District	73.6%	70.5%	67.4%	72.2%	70.2%

PASS	2009 Reading	2009 Math	2009 Science	2009 Social Studies	2009 Writing
	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary
District	30.1%	22.6%	11.0%	17.2%	25.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	29.5%	23.7%	14.4%	22.3%	23.8%
Average District	35.2%	28.8%	18.8%	28.5%	29.8%

HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtest (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	76.7%	12.7%	10.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	72.9%	14.3%	12.9%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009 (%)

District	91.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	93.1%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	62.6
Districts with Students Like Ours**	55.8

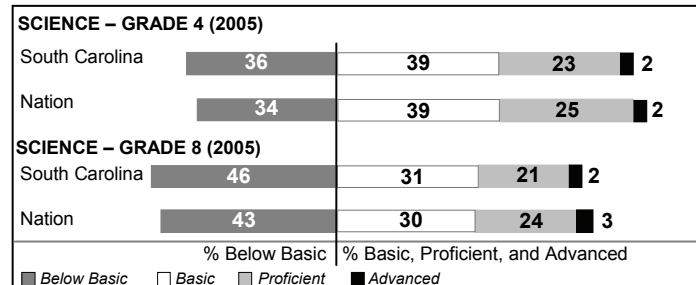
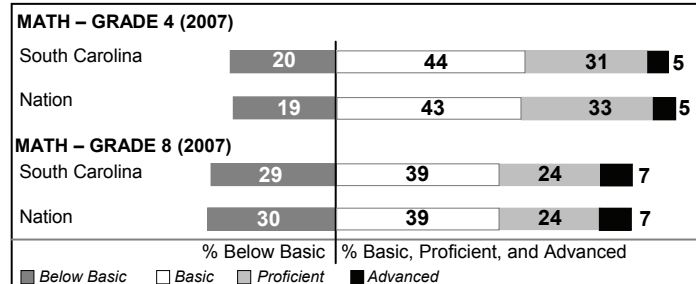
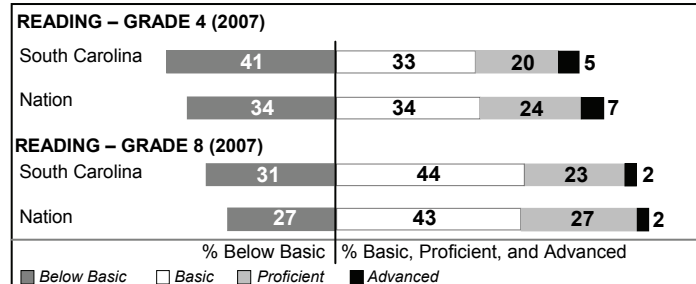
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	68.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	75.1%

** Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

NAEP*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Vision:

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined
 NI Newly Identified CDI Continuing District Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY District Improvement Status HOLD District Improvement Status

Laurens 55 School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=6,007)				
Retention rate	3.0%	Down from 3.4%	3.5%	3.1%
Attendance rate	97.0%	No Change	95.7%	95.7%
Eligible for gifted and talented	6.2%	Up from 5.8%	12.1%	11.2%
With disabilities other than speech	9.8%	Down from 10.2%	10.8%	10.6%
Older than usual for grade	5.0%	Down from 6.2%	4.9%	4.3%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.1%	Down from 0.2%	0.6%	0.5%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	11.4%	Down from 11.6%	8.1%	10.5%
Successful on AP/IB exams	34.2%	Down from 36.4%	50.2%	51.2%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	25.4%	Down from 26.4%	29.4%	30.8%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	93	Up from 75	40	40
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	46	Up from 40	23	30
Annual dropout rate	5.4%	Down from 7.5%	4.0%	3.4%
Teachers (n=376)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	52.4%	Up from 47.0%	56.5%	56.8%
Continuing contract teachers	82.7%	Up from 73.2%	79.9%	76.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	3.0%	Down from 4.9%	4.3%	4.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	87.7%	Up from 85.5%	88.4%	88.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.5%	Down from 95.6%	95.0%	95.0%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,806	Up 4.7%	\$46,226	\$46,992
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.3%	Up from 0.0%	0.3%	0.4%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.6%	Up from 2.8%	1.6%	2.3%
Professional development days/teacher	15.0 days	Down from 16.0 days	13.4 days	13.1 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	1.0	Down from 13.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.8 to 1	Up from 20.0 to 1	20.0 to 1	20.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.7%	Up from 90.8%	89.8%	89.8%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,630	Up 11.2%	\$9,378	\$9,279
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	50.2%	No Change	52.7%	52.7%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	53.1%	Down from 53.2%	56.4%	56.7%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	11	No Change	9	9
Portable classrooms	1.2%	Down from 1.7%	2.3%	3.5%
Average age in years of school facilities	32 Years	Up from 31 Years	29 Years	28 Years
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	11.0	No Change	9.0	8.0
Parents attending conferences	88.5%	Down from 97.1%	95.2%	93.9%
Average administrator salary	\$83,101	Up 8.1%	\$78,468	\$79,261
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	93.1%	Up from 72.4%	85.2%	85.7%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
There are no charter schools in this district.			

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REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

With an ever-increasing level of achievement, a commitment to improving facilities, an emphasis on literacy, and a focus on improved health, Laurens County School District No. 55 positively impacts the lives of students and the surrounding community. Students, parents, school leaders, teachers, and support staff work together daily to reach higher levels.

The district obtains valuable, up-to-date information on student achievement through an online assessment tool known as MAP. All schools had a full-time literacy coach on staff, and many had science and math coaches. Due to severe budget cuts, this level of service has been curtailed at this time. The Montessori program is the largest in the state and one of the largest in the nation. The 2009 graduating class of Laurens District 55 High School earned \$2.8 million in college scholarships. There were 300 students who received a high school diploma or certificate.

Thank you for the role you play in the success of our schools and the local community.

Billy R. Strickland, Ed.D., Superintendent

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 06/01/10-3055999